Supporting Information

Using Boronolectin in MALDI-MS Imaging for the Histological Analysis

of Cancer Tissue Expressing the Sialyl Lewis X Antigen

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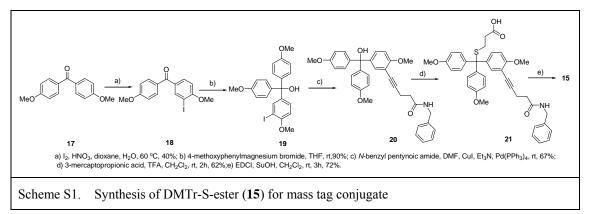
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General Information

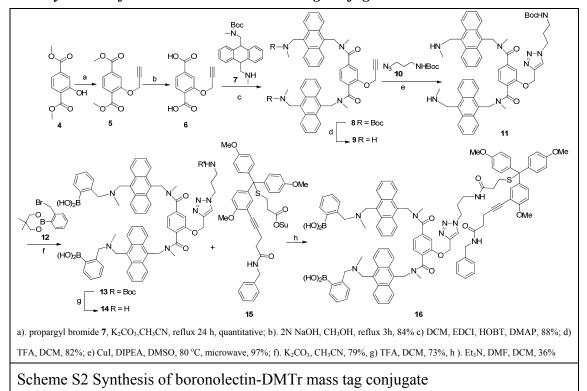
Solvents and reagents were purchased from VWR, Acros, or Aldrich and used without purification unless specified otherwise. When necessary, solid reagents were dried under high vacuum. Reactions with compounds sensitive to air or moisture were performed under argon. Solvent mixtures are indicated as volume/volume ratios. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was run on Sorbtech W/UV254 plates (0.25 mm thick), and visualized under UV-light or by a Ce-Mo staining solution (phosphomolybdate, 25 g; Ce(SO₄)₂.4H₂O, 10 g; H₂SO4, 60 mL, conc.; H₂O, 940 mL) with heating. Flash chromatography was performed using Fluka silica gel 60 (mesh size 0.040-0.063 mm) using a weight ratio of ca. 30:1 for silica gel over crude compound. ¹H, ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz NMR spectrometer in deuterated chloroform $(CDCl_3),$ methanol- d_4 (CD₃OD), or DMSO- d_6 with either tetramethylsilane (TMS) (0.00 ppm) or the NMR solvent as the internal reference.

Experimental Section



1. Synthesis of DMTr-S-ester (15) for mass tag conjugation

As shown in Scheme S1, iodination of diarylketone compound **17** afforded monoiodo compound **18**. Subsequent Grignard addition gave trityl compound **19**. A side arm was installed through Sonogashira reaction to give **20**, which was reacted with 3-mercaptopropionic acid in the presence of trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) to give DMTr-S-acid (**21**). The carboxyl group was then activated through conversion to its *N*-hydroxysuccinimide ester (DMTr-S-ester, **15**).



2. Synthesis of boronolectin-DMTr mass tag conjugate

By reacting **4** with propargyl bromide, the alkyne side chain was introduced to give **5** in quantitative yield. The subsequent hydrolysis of **5** under basic conditions gave diacid linker **6** with an alkyne handle in 84% yield. Compound **7** was coupled with diacid linker **6** using 1-(2-dimethylamino-propyl)-3-ethyl carbodiimide hydrochloride (EDCI) as the activating reagent to furnish compound **8** with a di-anthracene group and an alkyne handle in 88% yield. Deprotection of **8** with TFA in dichloromethane (DCM) gave **9**, which was reacted with azido compound **10** under microwave conditions to give triazole compound **11**. The boronic acid moiety was attached through alkylation using potassium carbonate as the base to give the bisboronic acid compound **13**. Deprotection of the Boc group with TFA in DCM gave free amine **14**, which was then conjugated with DMTr-S-ester **15** to give the final mass spectrometric tag conjugate **16**.

Synthesis

3-Iodo-4,4'-dimethoxybenzophenone (18)

To a solution of 4,4'-dimethoxybenzophenone (**17**) (1.8 g, 7.5 mmol) in dioxane (10 mL), iodine (1.0 g, 3.9 mmol) was added at 60 °C. After the mixture was stirred for 15 min, water (2 mL) was added followed by the addition of 58% HNO₃ (4.1 mL) in a drop wise fashion within 1 h. The reaction was keep stirring at 60 °C for about 6 h until iodine color disappeared. Nitrogen was bubbled through the reaction mixture until the cessation of brown gas emission. Then the mixture was diluted with water (100 mL) to afford pale yellow precipitates, which were collected and washed with 5% NaHCO₃ aqueous solution and water. Re-crystallization from EtOH (20 mL), followed by column chromatography purification with hexane/EtOAc (10:1) gave white needles (1.1 g, 40% yield). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.73 (m, 3H), 7.12 (m, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H), and 3.87 (s, 3H) ppm. MS-ESI: [M+H]⁺ (m/z, 369.0).

3-Iodo-4-methoxyphenyl-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)methanol (19)

To a solution of 3-iodo-4,4'-dimethoxybenzophenone (**18**) (1.0 g, 2.7 mmol) in dry THF (20 mL), 1M solution of 4-methoxyphenylmagnesium bromide in THF (5.5

ml, 5.5 mmol) was added in one portion at 0 °C. After stirring at RT overnight, the reaction solution was diluted with 150 mL of saturated NaHCO₃ solution and extracted with EtOAc (50 mL × 3). The EtOAc layer was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography with hexane/EtOAc (10:1) to give white crystals (1.2 g, 90% yield). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.16 (m, 5H), 6.87 (m, 4H), 6.74 (d, J = 5.6 Hz 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H,), and 3.82 (s, 6H) ppm. MS-ESI: [M+H]⁺ (m/z, 477.3).

N-Benzyl-3-{2-methoxy-5-[hydroxyl-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-phenyl}-4-pen tynoic amide (20)

To the solution of compound **19** (530 mg, 1.11 mmol) and *N*-benzyl pentynoic amide (219 mg, 1.17 mmol) in DMF (6 mL), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (116 mg, 0.1 mmol), CuI (38 mg, 0.2 mmol), and Et₃N (235 uL, 1.68 mmol) were added in sequence under N₂ protection. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight, then diluted with water (100 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (60 mL × 3). The EtOAc extract was washed with water (50 mL), 0.1 M solution of (NH₄)₂EDTA (50 mL), and brine (50 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified on a silica gel column with hexane/EtOAc 1:1 as the solvent to give a white solid (400 mg, 67% yield). ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): 7.24 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (m, 5H), 7.08 (m, 4H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (m, 4H), 4.34 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 6H), 2.72 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), and 2.48 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H) ppm. MS-ESI: [M+H]⁺ (m/z, 536.4).

DMTr-S-acid (21)

To a solution of compound **20** (340 mg, 0.64 mmol) in 6 mL of DCM under N₂ were added 3-mercaptopropionic acid (56 μ L, 0.64mmol) and TFA (67 μ L, 0.83 mmol). The mixture was stirred at RT for 2 h. At that point, TLC indicated that compound **20** had disappeared. The volatiles in the reaction solution were removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with DCM/MeOH (10:1) to give a colorless needle-like product (248 mg, 62% yield). ¹H

NMR (CDCl₃): 7.64 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.11 (m, 10H), 6.78 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 6.71 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (brs, 1H), 4.45 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.77 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.52 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H) ppm. MS-ESI: [M+H]⁺ (m/z, 624.0).

DMTr-S-ester (15)

Compound **21** (248 mg, 0.4 mmol) and *N*-hydroxysuccinimide (SuOH, 46 mg, 0.4 mmol) were dissolved in 8 mL of DCM. Then EDCI (77 mg, 0.4 mmol) was added at RT with stirring. After stirring at RT for 3 h, the reaction solution was diluted with DCM (60 mL), washed with water (5 mL) and brine (5 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with DCM/MeOH (20:1) to give white solid (204 mg, 72% yield). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.43 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (m, 5H), 7.22 (m, 5H), 6.82 (m, 4H), 6.46 (brs, 1H), 3.80 (s, 6H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.78 (m, 6H), 2.53 (m, 4H), 2.47 (m, 2H) ppm. MS-ESI: [M+H]⁺ (m/z, 721.2).

2-Prop-2-ynyloxy-terephthalic acid dimethyl ester (5)

To a solution of compound **4** (24 g, 114 mmol) in 250 mL of CH₃CN was added K₂CO₃ (18.9 g, 137 mmol) and propargyl bromide (16.38 mL, 137 mmol). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 24 h under nitrogen. After cooling down to RT, reaction mixture was then poured into a mixture of EtOAc (100 mL) and 10 % HCl aqueous solution (10 mL). The organic phase was separated and washed with saturated NaHCO₃, brine and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Removal of solvent to provide a wax-like light white solid (28.25 g, quantitative yield): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.84-7.82 (m, 1H), 7.71-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.782-7.779 (m, 1H), 4.85 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2 H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.56 (t, *J* =2.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 166.0, 165.9, 156.6, 134.3, 131.6, 125.2, 122.3, 115.1, 77.6, 76.5, 56.9, 52.5, 52.4. MS (+ESI) m/z 249.1 [M+H]⁺.

2-Prop-2-ynyloxy-terephthalic acid (6)

To a solution of compound 5 (3.0 g, 143 mmol) in 15 mL of CH_3OH was added 25 mL of sodium hydroxide solution (2M), the reaction mixture was refluxed for 3 h.

After removal of solvent by vacuum, the residue was acidified to pH 2 with 10% HCl solution. Solid was collected, washed with water, dried on vacuum to afford a white solid (2.11 g, 84%): ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6) δ 13.22 (brs, 2H), 7.71-7.73 (m, 2 H), 7.61-7.63 (m, 1H), 4.96 (d, *J* =2 Hz, 3H), 3.65 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO- d_6) δ 167.3, 167.0, 155.8, 134.7, 130.9, 126.9, 122.2, 114.7, 79.4, 79.2, 56.6. MS (-ESI) m/z 219.1 [M-H]⁻.

$N^1, N^4\text{-}Bis((9\text{-}(N\text{-}Boc\text{-}methylamino)methyl)anthracen\text{-}10\text{-}yl)methyl)\text{-}N^1, N^4\text{-}N^4\text{-$

dimethyl-2-(prop-2-ynyloxy)terephthalamide (8)

To a solution of **7** (1.62 g, 4.4 mmol) and **6** (488 mg, 2.2 mmol) in 320 mL of dried DCM was added EDCI (820 mg, 9.0 mmol), HOBt (1.2 g, 8.9 mmol) and DMAP (108 mg, 0.9 mmol). After stirring overnight at room temperature under nitrogen atmosphere, the reaction mixture was washed with water and dried over MgSO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (DCM/CH₃OH 100/1) to afford a light yellow powder (1.76 g, 88%): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.50 (s, 8 H), 7.58 (s, 8H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 5.86 (s, 4H), 5.55 (s, 4H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 6H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.57 (s, 18H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 170.3, 168.0, 153.2, 138.1, 130.9, 130.8, 130.1, 128.4, 128.1, 128.04, 126.2, 126.0, 125.9, 125.0, 124.5, 124.2,120.2, 111.4, 79.8,77.5, 76.1, 55.8, 53.3, 41.4, 38.5, 35.5, 33.9, 28.4. HRMS (+ESI): Calc. for [C₅₇H₆₁N₄O₇]⁺ [M+H]⁺ m/z 913.4540, Found 913.4566. MS (+ESI) m/z: 913.4 [M+H]⁺.

N^1, N^4 -Dimethyl- N^1, N^4 -bis((9-((methylamino)methyl)anthracen-10-yl)methyl)-2 -(prop-2-ynyloxy)terephthalamide (9)

A mixture of compound **8** (1.0 g, 1.1 mmol) and TFA (3 mL) in 12 mL of DCM was stirred at room temperature in the dark for 3 h. After removal of solvent, a mixed solvent of EtOAc/hexane 1:1 (20 mL) was added to the residue. Precipitate was generated and the solid was collected, washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution and water, dried under vacuum to provide **9** as a light yellow solid (615 mg, 82%): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.43-8.39 (m, 8H), 7.57-7.52 (m, 8H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1 H), 6.99-6.97 (m, 1H), 5.83-5.78 (m, 4H), 4.69 (s, 4H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 2.69 (s, 6H),

2.51 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 1H), 1.94 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 170.9, 168.6, 153.7, 138.6, 133.5, 131.6, 131.5, 130.5, 128.6, 128.0, 126.7, 126.5, 126.3, 125.5,125.4, 125.4, 125.0, 124.7, 120.7, 111.9, 78.1, 76.8, 56.4, 48.5, 42.4, 41.9, 37.6, 36.1, 34.5. HRMS (+ESI): Calc. for $[C_{47}H_{45}N_4O_3]^+$ [M+H]⁺ m/z 713.3492, Found 713.3512. MS (-ESI) m/z 711.4 [M-H]⁻.

Compound 11

To a mixture of compound **9** (105 mg, 0.14 mmol) and compound **10** (84 mg, 0.42 mmol) in 0.5 mL of DMSO was added DIPEA (0.12 mL, 0.7 mmol) and CuI (11 mg, 0.056 mmol). The reaction mixture was microwave-irradiated at 80 °C for 30 min under nitrogen atmosphere. To the reaction mixture, water was slowly added in (5 mL). Then the mixture was extracted with DCM. The combined DCM phase was washed with brine and dried over MgSO₄. Solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (DCM/CH₃OH 10/3) to provide a light yellow solid (130 mg, 97%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.44-8.43 (m, 8H), 7.58-7.53 (m, 9H), 7.08-6.96 (m, 3H), 5.87-5.69 (m, 4H), 5.10 (s, 2H), 4.76 (s, 4H), 4.20 (s, 2 H), 2.94 (s, 2H), 2.84 (s, 6H), 2.40 (s, 6H), 1.78 (s, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H); MS (ESI) m/z 913.4 [M+H]⁺

Compound 13

To a solution of compound **11** (200 mg, 0.11 mmol) in 12 mL of CH₃CN were added boronate **16** (124 mg, 0.44 mmol), K₂CO₃ (152 mg, 1.1 mmol), and NaI (4 mg, 0.022 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h under nitrogen atmosphere in the dark. After filtering out the solid, the organic solvent was removed, and the residue was re-dissolved in DCM, washed with 5% NaHCO₃ solution and brine, and dried over MgSO₄. Solvent evaporation gave a crude product, which was re-crystallized with DCM/Et₂O to provide a light yellow solid (205 mg, 79% yield). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆) δ 6.80-9.15 (m, 28 H), 5.60-5.85 (m, 4 H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 4.53 (s, 4H), 4.25 (s, 2H), 3.95 (s, 4H), 3.31 (s, 6H), 2.46 (s, 6H), 2.31 (s, 2H), 1.34 (s, 9H). MS (ESI): m/z 1163.3 [M-H₂O+H]⁺. HRMS (ESI): Calc. for [C₆₉H₇₃B₂N₈O₈]⁺ [M-H₂O+H]⁺ m/z 1163.5737, Found 1163.5760.

Compound 14

A mixture of compound **13** (240 mg, 0.2 mmol) and TFA (1.0 mL) in 10 mL of DCM was stirred for 4 h at room temperature under nitrogen atmosphere in the dark. After removal of solvent, the residual oil was dissolved in 3 mL of EtOAc. This was followed by the slow addition of 50 mL of Et₂O. The precipitate was collected and washed with saturated K₂CO₃ solution and water. Further purification by flash chromatography provided a white solid (133 mg, 73%): ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d₆*) $\delta 6.80$ -9.40 (m, 30 H), 4.40-6.00 (m, 12 H), 3.40 (s, 6 H), 3.17-3.10 (m, 2 H), 2.82-2.74 (m, 2 H), 2.39 (s, 6 H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d₆*) $\delta 6$: 158.9, 158.6, 136.2, 130.9, 130.6, 127.6, 127.0, 126. 8, 125.5, 125.0, 119.0, 116.0, 67.8, 51.3, 47.1, 36.8, 28.3, 21.9, 21.7. MS (ESI) m/z 1063.4 [M-H₂O+H]⁺, 1081.5 [M+H]⁺. HRMS (+ESI): Calc. for [C₆₄H₆₇B₂N₈O₇]⁺ [M+H]⁺ m/z 1081.5319, Found 1081.5363; Calc. for [C₆₄H₆₅B₂N₈O₆]⁺ [M-H₂O+H]⁺ m/z 1063.5213, Found 1063.5253.

Compound 16

In a 10-mL flask, compound **14** (60 mg, 0.05 mmol) and DMTr-S-ester (**15**) were dissolved in a mixture of 0.5 mL DMF and 1 mL DCM. Then Et₃N was added at RT in the dark. The mixture was stirred at RT overnight and then solvent was evaporated. To the resulting viscous residue was slowly added 10 mL of Et₂O to afford a suspension. The solid was filtered and washed with EtOAc to give crude product, which was purified by silica gel chromatography with DCM/MeOH (15:1) to give a white solid (30 mg, 36%). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆) 9.0 (m, 3H), 8.64-8.41 (m, 9H), 7.94-6.83 (m, 32H), 5.76-5.10 (m, 5H), 4.53-4.32 (m, 2H), 4.42 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 6H), 3.40 (s, 12H), 3.39-3.01 (m, 18H), 2.55-2.0 (m, 8H), 1.23 (m, 2H). MS-ESI: [M-H-H₂O]⁻ (m/z, 1666.6) and [M+H-H₂O]⁺ (m/z, 1669.2).

Tissue preparation and MALDI-IMS

Frozen tissue was sectioned and slides stored at -80 °C. For data collection, slides were removed from the freezer and rinsed in PBS for 5 min, followed by a rinse in water. The slides were then air-dried and overlaid with the boronolectin-trityl conjugate solution diluted in 100% methanol and incubated at room temperature for 2 h. Slides were then rinsed with 100% methanol to remove any unbound boronolectin-trityl conjugate, washed in PBS for 5 min, followed by a final water rinse. The slides were then allowed to air-dry and dessicated for 1 h before reading in the Ultraflex III MALDI-TOF (Bruker Daltonics), operated in reflectron mode with a raster width of 200 μ m, to detect the trityl tags (m/z 500-600).

Immunostaining for Sialyl Lewis X

Immunostaining of frozen specimens was performed by the avidin-biotin peroxidase complex method using a Vectastain Elite ABC kit (Vector, Burlingame, CA). Frozen tissue was first treated with 0.3% hydrogen peroxide to block endogenous peroxide activity for 15 minutes. Sections were incubated in normal serum (provided in the kit) to block nonspecific binding and incubated with mouse monoclonal antibody to sialyl Lewis X, (clone KM93, Millipore, Billerica, MA) diluted 1:50 in 5% serum diluted in PBS for 1 h at room temperature. After washing in PSA, sections were then treated with biotinylated goat anti-mouse immunoglobulin G (IgG), followed by treatment with avidin-biotin-peroxidase complex, and stained with IMPACT DAB peroxidase substrate (Vector Labs) according to the supplier's protocol. Counterstaining was performed with Mayer's hematoxylin.

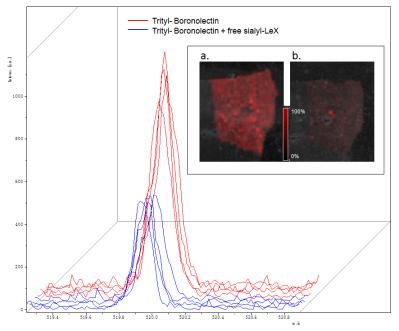
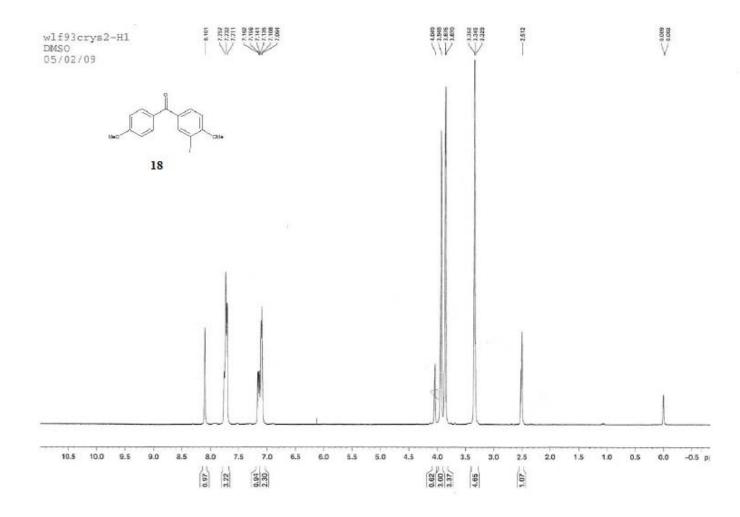
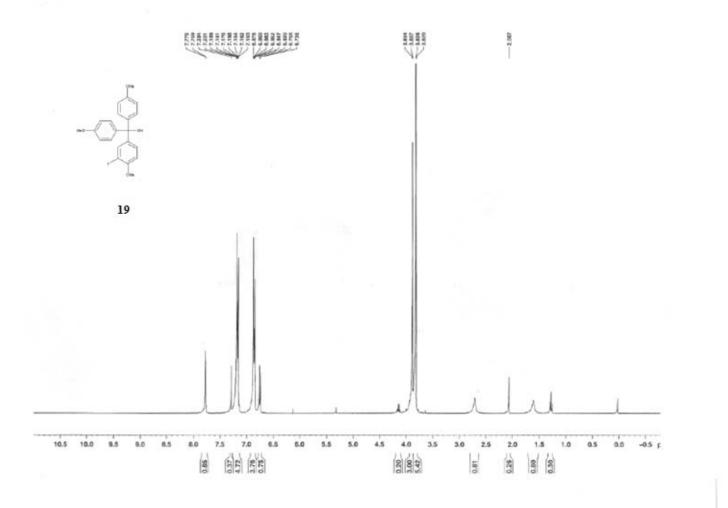
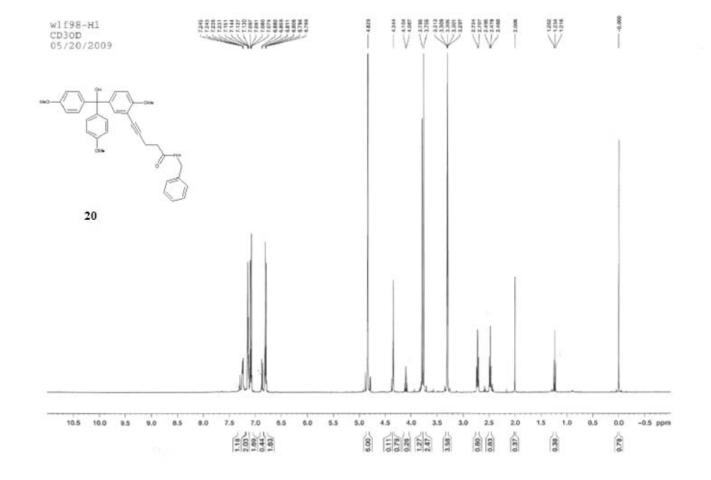


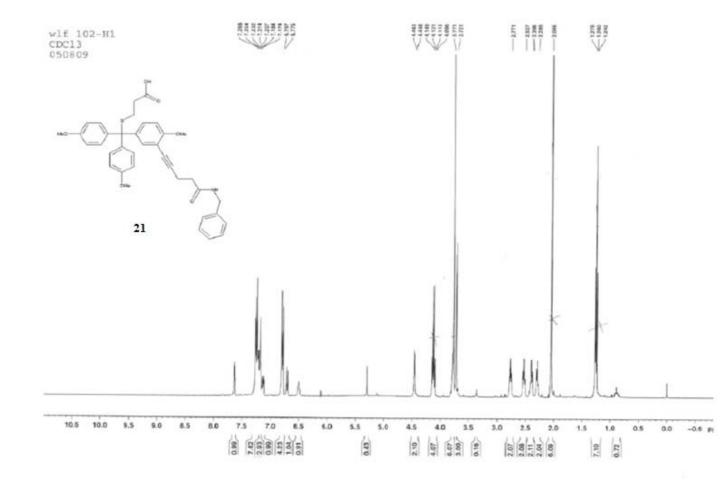
Figure S1. Borono-lectin trityl is blocked by carbohydrate.

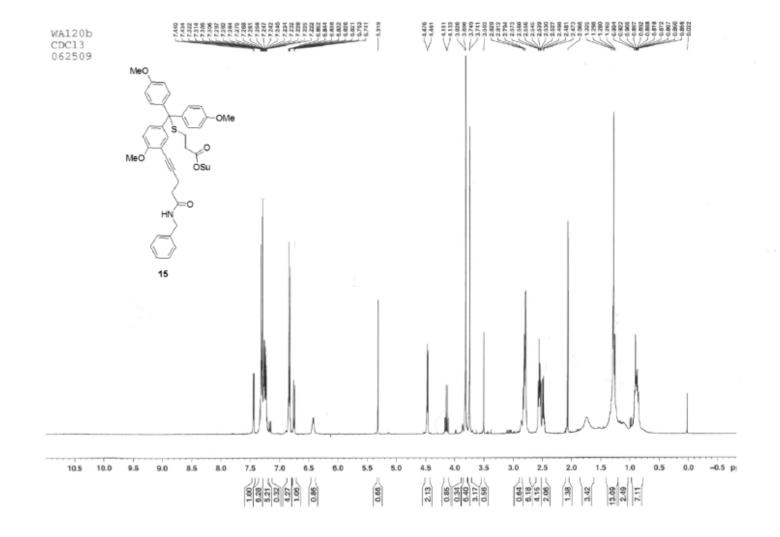
Representative spectra exported from RCC regions after incubation overnight in the presence (blue) or absence (red) of 7 μ M of sialyl Lewis X, followed by trityl-boronolectin-sialyl-LeX (1.5 uM) labeling and TIMS showing reduction in peak intensity with the carbohydrate was present. Inset) Images generated from RCC issue subjected to TIMS with the boronolectin-trityl alone (a) and with sialyl Lewis X (b), depicting the differences in signal intensity.

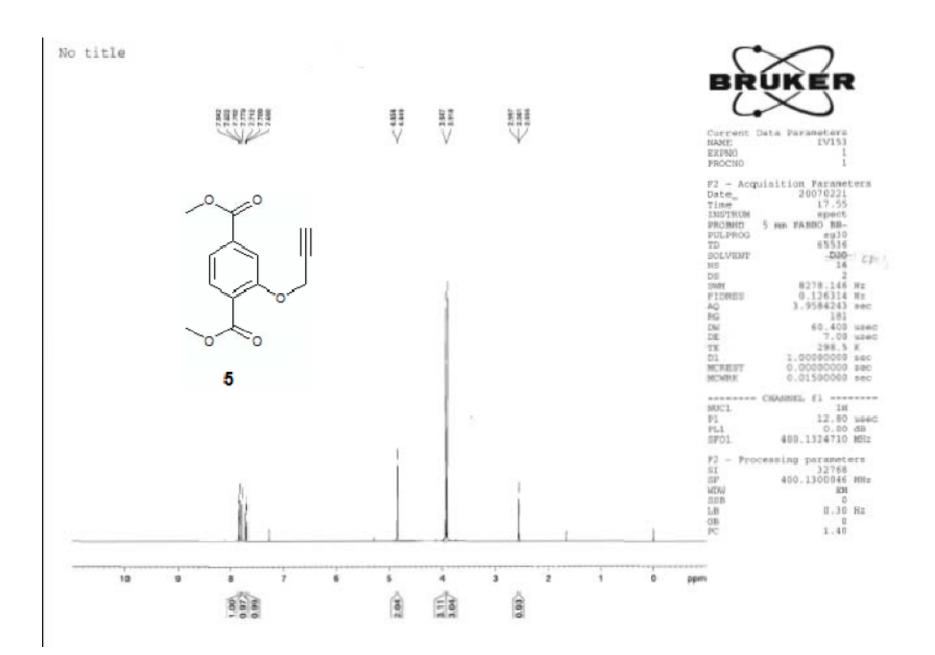


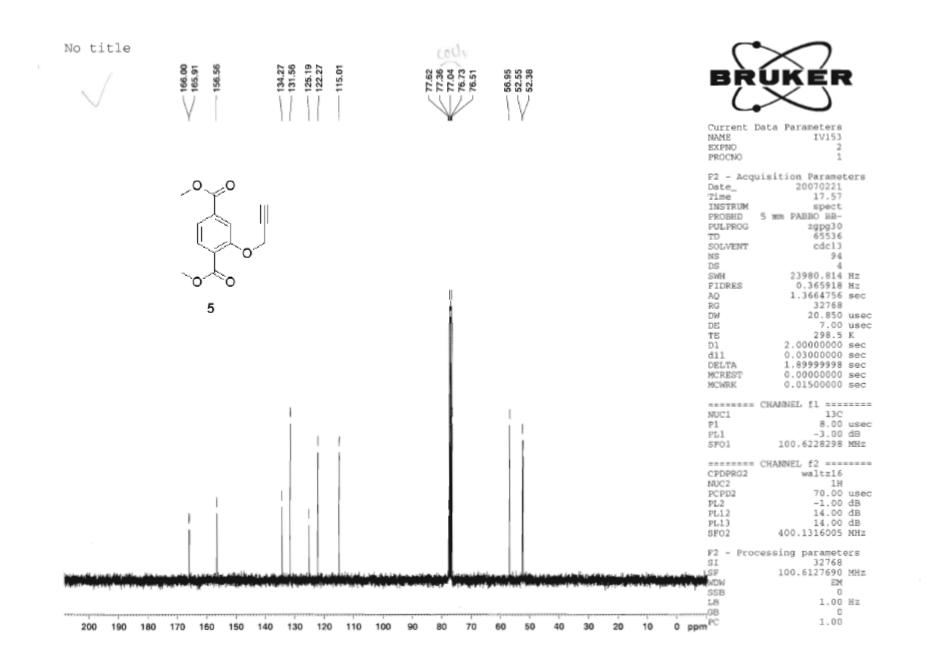






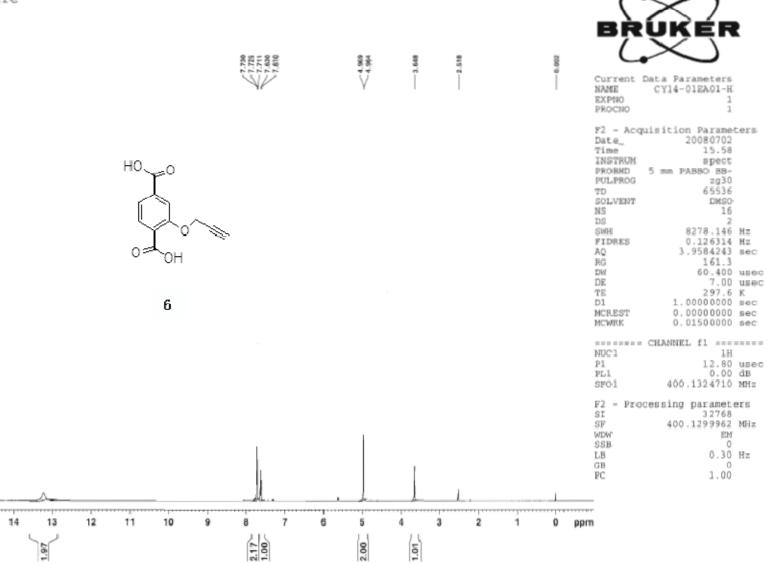


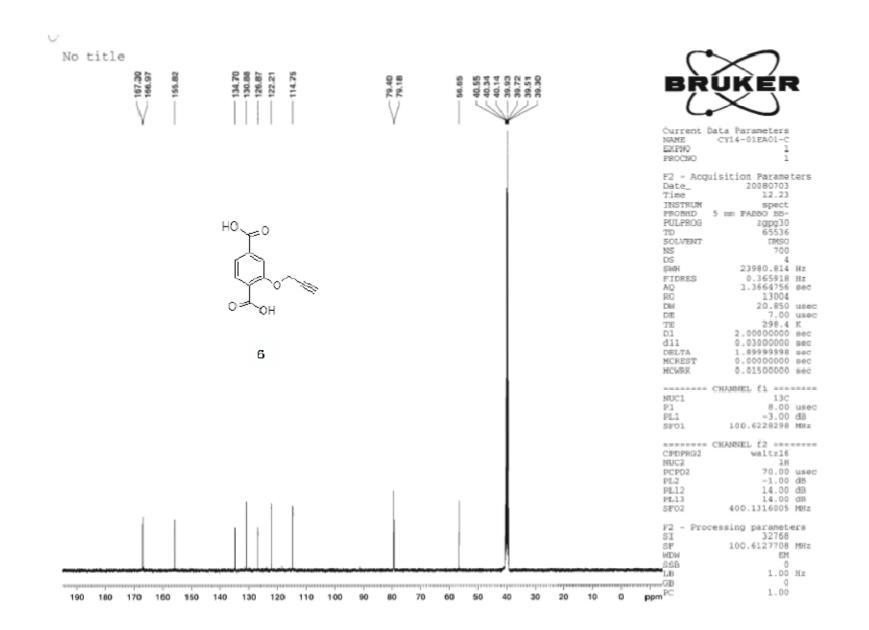


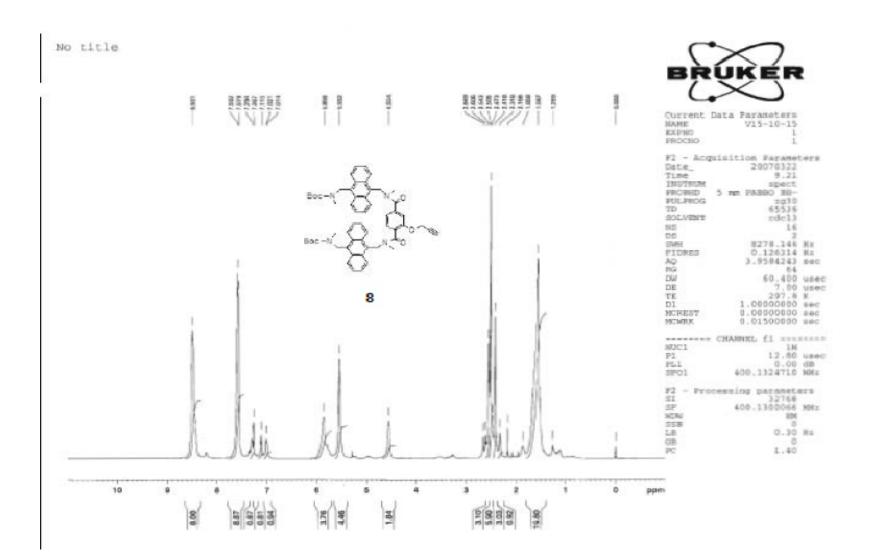


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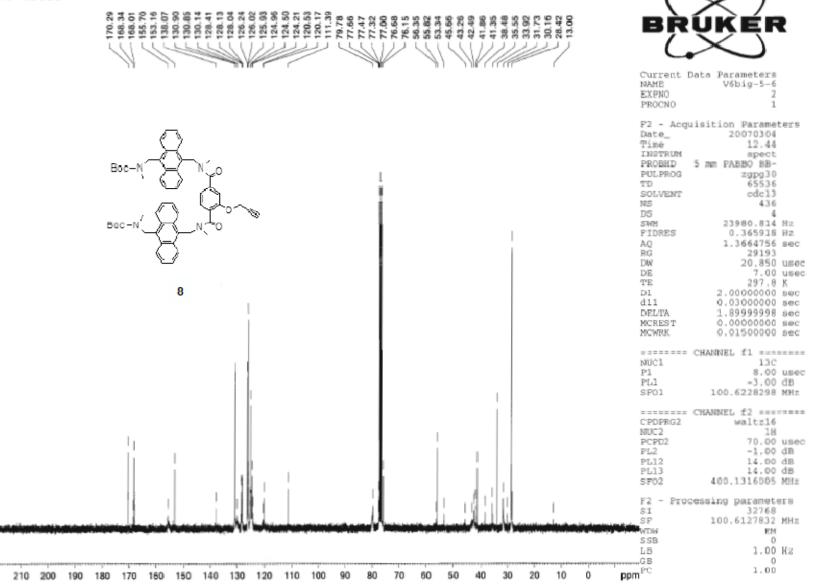
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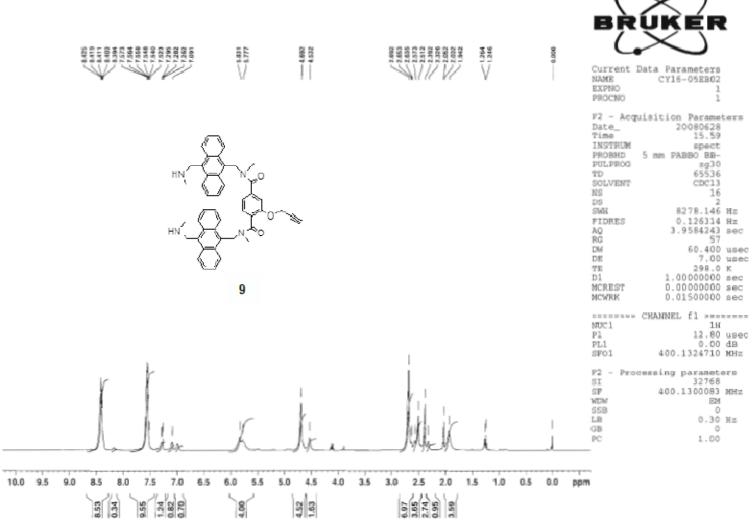


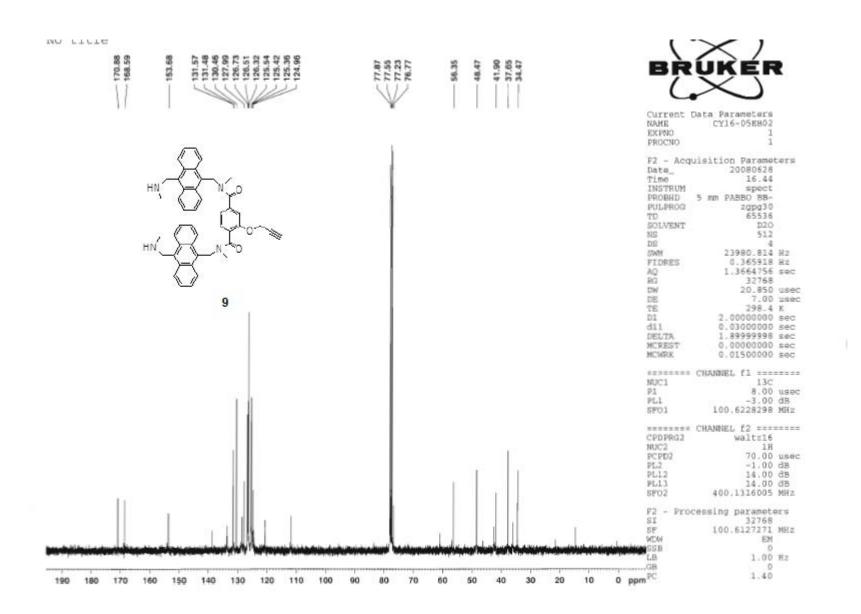


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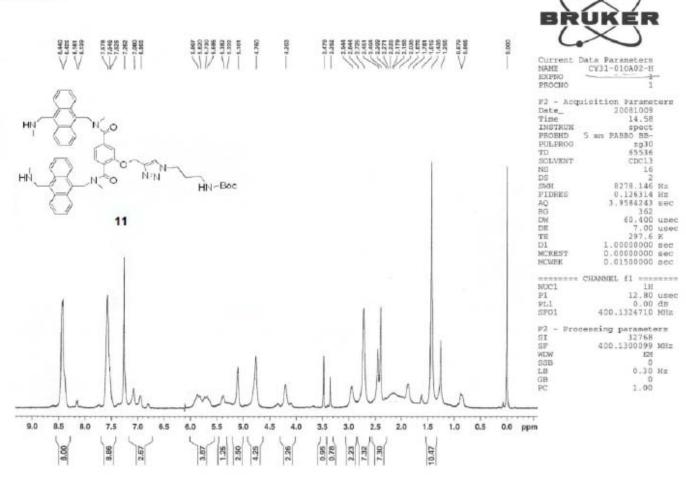


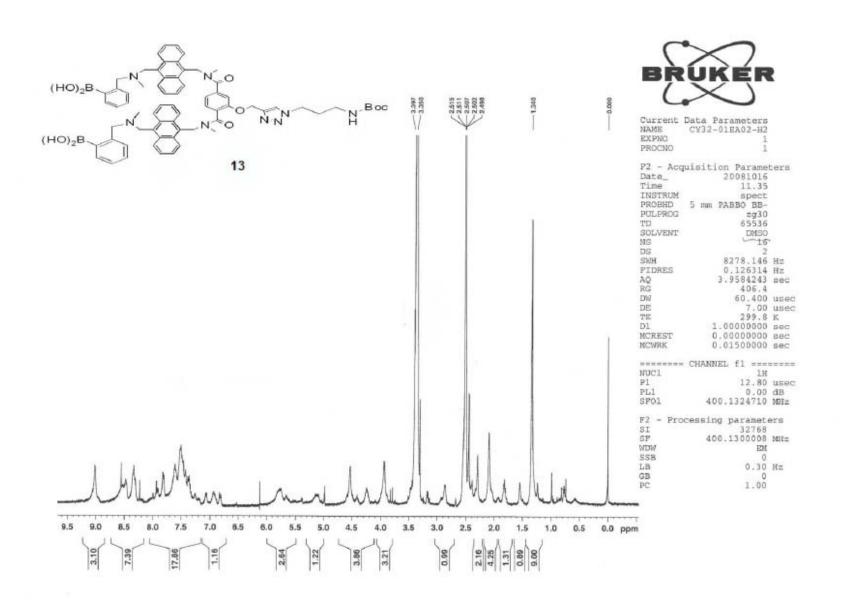
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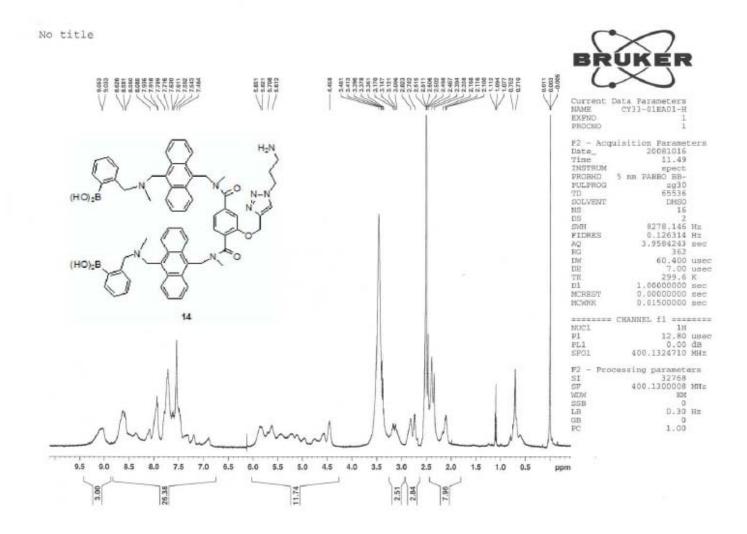


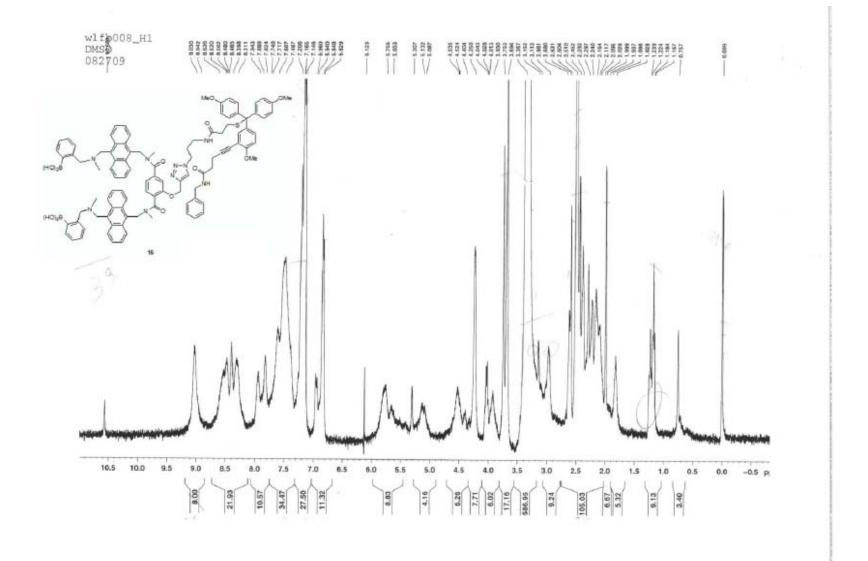


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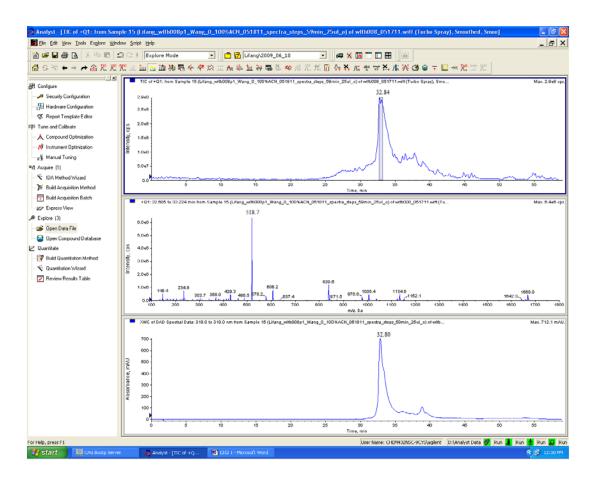
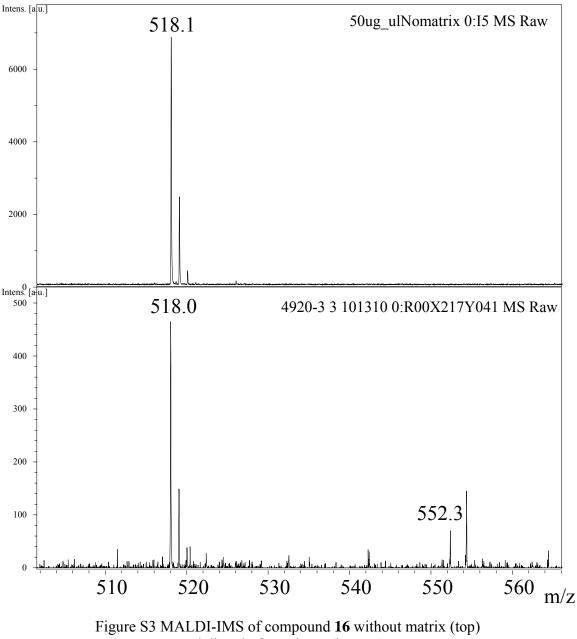


Figure S2 LCMS of compound 16



and directly from tissue (bottom)